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State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

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February 23, 2012

Claron Bjork, Environmental Health Director Southeastern Utah Health Department P.O. Box 800

Price, Utah 84501

Subject: Public Outreach for the Evaluation of the Utah Coal Regulatory Program (Division of

Oil, Gas and Mining & Federal Office of Surface Mining, Outgoing File

Dear Dr. Bjork:

Each year the Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining (DOGM) and the United States Department of the Interior, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSM), jointly evaluate DOGM's program for regulation of coal mining in Utah. We determine how effectively the DOGM is (1) ensuring that land reclamation on coal mines is contemporaneous and successful, (2) preventing offsite impacts to lands and waters adjacent to coal mine permit areas, and (3) providing service to its customers. Our evaluation process includes the selection of specific coal mining and land reclamation topics to evaluate these criteria.

We are requesting your comments on OSM's oversight process, your recommendations for evaluation topics, and suggestions for improving our future Annual Reports. Recommendations for evaluation topics should be geared towards determining how effective DOGM's program is in ensuring successful contemporaneous reclamation, preventing offsite impacts, and providing customer service. Our next oversight evaluation period is from July 1, 2012, through June 30, 2013.

At the end of each evaluation period, OSM writes a report that addresses DOGM's effectiveness in implementing its coal regulatory program. The Annual Evaluation Summary reports are accessible through the OSM website at http://www.wrcc.osmre.gov/programs/oversight/utah/evaluation.shtm. These reports may also be found on the DOGM website at http://www.ogm.utah.gov/.

If you have any suggestions or questions on the annual evaluation process, <u>please contact</u> <u>us by March 30, 2012</u>. You may e-mail your suggestions to Daron Haddock, DOGM, at <u>daronhaddock@utah.gov</u>, telephone (801) 538-5325, Howard Strand, OSM, at <u>hstrand@osmre.gov</u>, telephone (303) 293-5026, or mail us a letter at the addresses shown below.



General

If you prefer to receive this annual outreach letter by email in the future, please provide us with your email address.

Sincerely,

Dana R. Haddock

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